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particular form the invention is directed at a method of encoding words which enhances a student's ability to learn how to pronounce different words.

According to a first aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of encoding words for language teaching comprising the steps of identifying a plurality of different vowel sounds, representing each different vowel sound and the letters forming the vowel sound by a first indicia and a second indicia, storing the different first and second indicias for each vowel sound, identifying a plurality of different consonant sounds, representing each consonant sound by a third indicia and a selection of consonant sounds by a fourth indicia, storing the third and fourth indicia for each consonant sound, identifying a plurality of different silent letters occurring in words, representing each silent letter by a fifth indicia and storing the fifth indicias for each silent letter whereby a word is represented by a combination of the first to fifth indicia.

According to another aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of displaying words for language teaching, comprising the steps of identifying a word, encoding the word into a plurality of indicia components and displaying the encoded word comprising indicia components, wherein the plurality of indicia comprise a first and second indicia representing different vowel sounds and their composing letters, third indicia representing different consonant sounds, fourth indicia representing a selection of consonant sounds and fifth indicia representing different silent letters occurring in words.

According to a further aspect of the present invention there is provided a system for teaching a language comprising a database which stores a plurality of different vowel sounds, with each vowel sound and its composing letters represented by a first indicia and a second indicia, a plurality of different consonant sounds,

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with each consonant sound represented by a third indicia and a selection of consonant sounds by a fourth indicia, a plurality of different silent letters occurring in words, with each silent letter represented by a fifth indicia, and a plurality of different words, a conversion means which converts each word into a converted form comprising the indicia and a display means which displays a word in converted form, and wherein the conversion means is adapted to convert a word input into the system and
10 utilise the display means to display the word in converted form..

It is preferred that the methods and system involve storing all different vowel sounds and all different consonant sounds.

15 Preferably the selection comprises consonants, diagraphs or consonant blends or other consonants having a particular characteristic.

Preferably, the method includes identifying a plurality of different consonant diagraph sounds, representing each consonant diagraph sound by a sixth
20 indicia and storing the sixth indicia for each consonant diagraph sound.

An indicia may include any symbol(s), number(s), notation(s), letter(s), colour(s), font(s), mark(s),
25 representation(s), zone(s) or any other sign.

The method may include creating a database comprising the different indicia.

According to one embodiment the method includes creating a dictionary database which stores the meaning of
30 each word.

According to another embodiment the dictionary database stores the prefix, roote and suffix of words.

According to a further embodiment the method involves displaying the prefix/roote and suffix of each
35 word.

It is preferred that words displayed with a prefix, roote and suffix are shown in coded form

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represented by the applicable indicia.

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CLAIMS

1. A method of encoding words for language teaching comprising the steps of identifying a plurality of different vowel sounds, representing each different
5 vowel sound and the letters forming the vowel sound by a first indicia and a second indicia, storing the different first and second indicias for each vowel sound, identifying a plurality of different consonant sounds, representing each consonant sound by a third indicia and a
10 selection of consonant sounds by a fourth indicia, storing the third and fourth indicia for each consonant sound, identifying a plurality of different silent letters occurring in words, representing each silent letter by a fifth indicia and storing the fifth indicias for each
15 silent letter whereby a word is represented by a combination of the first to fifth indicia.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the selection of consonant sounds comprises consonant
diagrams.

20 3. The method as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the first indicia comprises a number.

4. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 3 wherein the second indicia comprises a colour.

25 5. The method as claimed in claim 4 wherein the second indicia comprises a single colour.

6. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 5 wherein the third indicia comprises a colour.

7. The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the third indicia comprises a single colour.

30 8. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 7 wherein the fourth indicia comprises an underscore located underneath consonant diagrams.

9. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 7 wherein the fourth indicia comprises a symbol.

35 10. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 7 wherein the fifth indicia comprises a single colour.

11. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 10

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wherein a word is represented by a combination of letters and indicia.

12. The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the letters are represented by a colour indicative of the second, fourth or fifth indicia by which they are represented.

13. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 12 including the step of representing a group of consonant sounds by a sixth indicia and storing the sixth indicia for each consonant sound represented.

14. The method as claimed in claim 13 wherein the sixth indicia comprises a notation indicative of the pronunciation of the consonant sound.

15. A system for teaching a language comprising a database which stores a plurality of different vowel sounds, with each vowel sound and its composing letters represented by a first indicia and a second indicia, a plurality of different consonant sounds, with each consonant sound represented by a third indicia and a selection of consonant sounds by a fourth indicia, a plurality of different silent letters occurring in words, with each silent letter represented by a fifth indicia, and a plurality of different words, a conversion means which converts each word into a converted form comprising the indicia and a display means which displays a word in converted form, and wherein the conversion means is adapted to convert a word input into the system and utilise the display means to display the word in converted form.

16. A method of displaying words for language teaching, comprising the steps of identifying a word, encoding the word into a plurality of indicia components and displaying the encoded word comprising indicia components, wherein the plurality of indicia comprise a first and second indicia representing different vowel sounds and their composing letters, third indicia representing different consonant sounds, fourth indicia

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representing a selection of consonant sounds and fifth indicia representing different silent letters occurring in words.

17. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 15
5 including the step of display a matrix with sounds of one type along one axis and sounds of another type along another.

18. The method as claimed in claim 17 including
displaying a composite of sounds from each axis by a zone
10 corresponding to a point of intersection of the sounds on the grid.

19. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 16
including the step of searching for words including at
least one of the indicia, vowel sounds, consonants,
15 consonant diagraphs, silent letters.